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### DR. WILLIAM JAYNE.

Dr. William Jayne, one of the last of the men of Lincoln's day, one time governor of the territory of Dakota and for half a century prominent in the life of Springfield and the affairs of the State of Illinois, died March 20, 1916, at his home, 507 Enos Avenue, Springfield, at the advanced age of 89 years.

Robust, healthy and active all his life, Dr. Jayne had the misfortune to suffer more bodily pain during the last few months of his life than he probably did at any time before. Last January he slipped on an icy sidewalk and broke a hip. A nervous breakdown followed, and injury and illness depressed his last days.

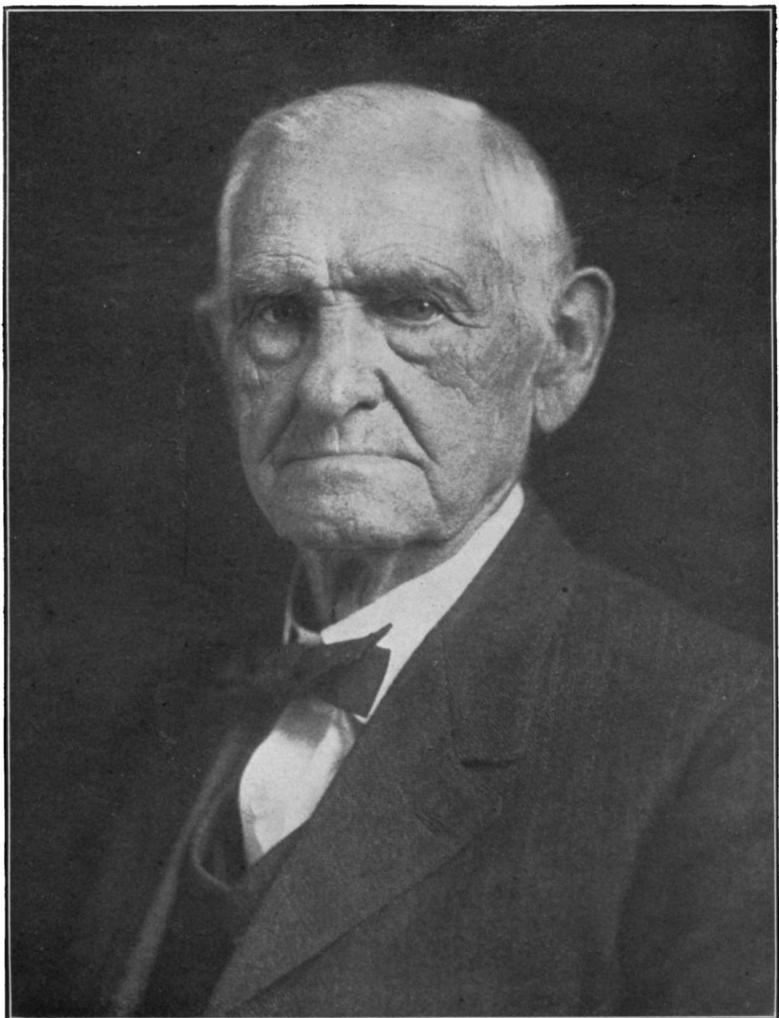
Dr. Jayne was one of that cycle of men, for the most part political leaders, who were brought to the fore of public life by the stirring events and issues of Lincoln's day. He was of the coterie of which the late United States Senator Cullom was a good representative.

Many men who had a sidewalk speaking acquaintance with Abraham Lincoln, latterly have emphasized their "intimate acquaintanceship" with the martyred president, Dr. Jayne was not one of these. He was truly an intimate of Lincoln, but he never used this fact, which he held an honored privilege, to bring him favor at any time or place. He stood on his own merits alone.

Starting life as a professional man, he later served his country in those early days when the infant middle west needed men of his high ability and impartial judgment.

He was well known nationally to the last generation. To Springfield he has always been an intimate acquaintance. Born here and educated in the public schools, he resided here all his life, and somehow his life was woven into the very fabric of the city.

For forty years, and up until his death, he was a director in the First National Bank and in this business activity he left many pleasant impressions and gathered life-long friends. He did not retire from active business until recently.



yours truly  
W Cayne

As an intimate acquaintance expresses it, "Anything you can say of Dr. Jayne will be good, and you can't say too much for him." The story of his life is a sermon rather than a biography.

He fulfilled the ideals of service and completeness of life. Governor of the Dakota Territory, delegate to Congress from that Territory, pension agent for Illinois, State senator, mayor of Springfield four terms, member of the commission to complete the present State Capitol Building, member of the Board of Education, president of the Library Board, acting president of the State Board of Charities, he served long and well through them all.

He is survived by one son, William S. Jayne, and six grandchildren, Perry Jayne, Mrs. George A. Fish, Louis P. Jayne, Margaret Jayne, Elizabeth Kuechler, all of Springfield, and William Jayne Kuechler, of Chicago, and two great grandchildren, William Louis Jayne and Margaret Ellen Jayne.

Doctor Jayne was on numerous occasions called upon to fill positions of high honor and trust. Perhaps no man in Springfield had so extensive a knowledge of past conditions, political or financial. His mind was a veritable mine of information.

William Jayne was born October 8, 1826, in Springfield, a son of Dr. Gershon and Sibyl Slater Jayne. This branch of the Jayne family may be traced back to William Jayne, who was born in Bristol, England, January 25, 1618, served in the army of Oliver Cromwell, and after the restoration of Charles II to the throne, came to America. He died March 24, 1714, and was buried at Setauket, Long Island. His son, William, the second in descent, was born March 23, 1684, and was the father of Isaac Jayne, born November 22, 1715. Jonathan Jayne of the fourth generation was born March 4, 1758, and his son, Gershon, born in Orange County, New York, October 15, 1791, was the father of Dr. William Jayne.

Dr. Gershon Jayne was educated in New York, where he practiced medicine until 1820. In this year he came to Illinois, his route being down the Ohio River from Pittsburgh, by flat-boat. He spent six months in southern Illinois, before permanently locating in Springfield, then a place of but a few

cabins, known as Calhoun. He began to practice medicine here when there was not a physician north of him in the State. Traveling on horseback in the frontier district, he successfully practiced his profession for forty-seven years. He lived to the age of seventy-five and one-half years, and his wife to the age of seventy years. Her maiden name was Sibyl Slater and she was the daughter of Elizabeth and Elijah Slater. Her grandfather lived to be ninety years of age. Doctor Jayne's sister, Julia Maria, acted as bridesmaid to Mrs. Abraham Lincoln, and later became the bride of Lyman Trumbull, Captain Henry, a brother, served five years in the Union Army during the Civil War. Mary Ellen, a sister, died unmarried.

In 1860 Doctor Jayne was elected State senator for the district comprising Sangamon and Morgan counties for four years, but resigned in 1861 to accept an appointment from President Abraham Lincoln, to the position of first territorial governor of Dakota. At one time he was a delegate to Congress from that Territory. He served as governor two years but later returned to Springfield.

In 1869 he was appointed by President Grant to the position of pension agent for Illinois and served four years. Later he was appointed by Governor Oglesby as one of the commission to complete the new State Capitol and in this was associated with George Kirk and John McCreery, the latter now deceased.

In this work Dr. Jayne was much interested. He had charge of the finishing of the beautiful State Library Room, and personally selected the names of the American authors whose heads are shown in relief on the splendid bronze fronts of the book stacks in the Library.

Beside his duties connected with State and national offices Dr. Jayne was active in municipal affairs. He served as mayor of Springfield in 1859 and was again elected in 1876, 1877 and 1882. He has been a member of the Board of Education, President of the Library Board and President of the State Board of Charities. For many years he was vice-president of the First National Bank and was one of its directors since 1875.

Dr. Jayne could always gather a crowd of the younger generation about him when he began telling of the life of Springfield when this city was but a straggling little village. He often told of the time when the business of the city was carried on in Jefferson street, and there was not a business building fronting the square. The old whipping post was used in the days when he was young and he often saw a man given lashes for misconduct.

To his many friends Dr. Jayne often told of the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln. Together with a party of Springfield men, including the late Judge James H. Matheny, Dr. Jayne went to Washington at the time of the inauguration and remained there several weeks. He attended the inaugural ball of Lincoln on the evening of March 4, 1861.

Telling of the inauguration in later years, he said:

"Stephen A. Douglas sat at Lincoln's left and Col. E. D. Baker, who was later killed in battle at Ball's Bluff, Virginia, at his right. When Lincoln looked around for a place to put his hat, Douglas took it and held it while the President spoke. James Buchanan arrived in the carriage with Lincoln. Chief Justice Taney introduced Lincoln and administered the oath of office.

Dr. Jayne was united in marriage in October, 1850, at Jacksonville to Julia Wetherbee, who was born in Vermont in 1830 and died in March, 1877. She was a daughter of Seth and Elizabeth Wetherbee, natives of the Green Mountain State, who came to Illinois and Morgan County in 1834. Several children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Jayne. Only two, however, lived to maturity. William S., born in October, 1851, who was united in marriage in 1875 to Margaret E. Palmer, daughter of Governor John M. Palmer, but who died in May, 1903, leaving four children—Perry, Louis, Susan and Margaret. Lizzie S., a daughter, was born in July, 1855. She was married in October, 1878, to C. F. Kuechler and she died in 1902. She left two children, Bessie and William Jayne Kuechler.

Dr. Jayne was a recognized authority on matters of a political nature and many reminiscences of political history can be

found in several articles that he wrote under the title "Political Representation."

Dr. Jayne attended such schools as were available in Springfield in his childhood and youth and was prepared for college under a private tutor and entered Illinois College at Jacksonville in 1843, and was graduated in 1847 with the degree of B.A. and afterwards he received the degree of M.A. He was one of the founders of the Phi Alpha Society and its first president. The Society was founded September 25, 1845, by seven young men of the college. These founders of the society in after years delighted to return to the college at reunions, and they were most cordially received and highly honored. Dr. Jayne was the last of these seven men who founded the society. At his funeral representatives of the college and society were present and a beautiful wreath which was their gift bore the name "Phi Alpha."

Three of Springfield's oldest and most respected citizens, men whose acquaintance with Dr. William Jayne extended over periods ranging from more than three score to over four score years, paid tributes to his memory. Of the three, the one who had known Dr. Jayne longest is Dr. George Pasfield. Both Dr. Jayne and Dr. Pasfield were born in Springfield, the latter being now in his eighty-fifth year.

The others are William Ridgely, president of the Ridgely National bank, now 76 years of age, and John W. Bunn, president of the Marine bank, whose acquaintance with Dr. Jayne began in the early fifties.

"William Jayne and I went to school together as boys," Dr. Pasfield said. "The friendship formed between us in those early days has continued unbroken down to his death. I regret to see him pass away, as he was one of the few old friends in Springfield that are left me."

"He was a good man and always did his duty, standing by his friends at all times. Never in his long life was he addicted to a bad habit, and his life story may be told in the statement that he was true to his friends and to his word. Once a promise was given it was kept."

"In the business and political life of Springfield he was

particularly active. A life long Republican, he was fond of politics and public speaking and always went to assemblages, making it a point to hear the great men of the country deliver their public opinions. To the extent of his means he always contributed to enterprises of advantage to the city.

"In his activities in politics, through his service to the city as mayor, as a state senator, territorial governor of the Dakotas and a territorial delegate in congress for one term, his one desire was to have his deserving friends taken care of. With many of the leading men of the nation, he was personally and intimately acquainted. Largely connected with prominent families of the east, politically and financially, he never took advantage of his kin to gain prestige."

John W. Bunn said: "His public and private life was clean and he was a man who always did his part toward the upbuilding of the city. My acquaintance with Dr. Jayne began in the early fifties, and our relations since that time have been close and pleasant. An intimate friend of Lincoln, early in Mr. Lincoln's first administration he was honored with appointment as territorial governor of the Dakotas.

"He was a fairly successful business man, but failed to grasp many of the opportunities offered him in early life through his intimacy with men of affairs in public and private life."

"I have known Dr. Jayne all my life," said Wm. Ridgely. "He was a lovable character, and he became more likeable as he grew older. While I never knew him intimately, I saw and knew much of his home and public life. In all his dealings with men he was fair and kept his word whenever it was given."

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#### FUNERAL OF DR. WILLIAM JAYNE.

Men and women notable in the civic and social life of Springfield, young people and the intimate friends and neighbors of the late Doctor Jayne, gathered at the residence, 507 Enos Avenue, to attend the last rites held for the veteran townsman and close friend of Abraham Lincoln.

The large old residence was crowded to the doors and the funeral service was one of unusual solemnity and beauty. The casket, a bower of flowers, stood in the east parlor. This room was transformed into a veritable garden of blossoms by the magnificent floral offerings. Wreaths of roses were in abundance.

Dr. George T. Gunter, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, conducted the funeral. He opened the services with the beautiful words from the tenth verse of the forty-sixth psalm: "Be still and know that I am God." Dr. Gunter also read a number of verses about the aged. Among them was, "Then Abraham gave up the ghost and died in good old age, an old man and full of years; and was gathered to his people." He also read excerpts from the ninetieth psalm: "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.\* \* \* For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night. The days of our years are three-score years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be four-score years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. \* \* \* So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

"Lead Kindly Light" was sung softly by Mrs. Frank V. Partridge, without accompaniment. Throughout the reading of the scriptures and the singing, the canary birds in Doctor Jayne's house sung joyously. Doctor Gunter in offering the prayer, referred to the beautiful message from the birds and flowers in the midst of the house of death.

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#### JUDGE J. OTIS HUMPHREY'S TRIBUTE.

Following the scripture reading Hon. J. Otis Humphrey, for years a personal friend of Doctor Jayne, gave a short address. Judge Humphrey spoke of the strength and beauty of the rugged character of Doctor Jayne.

"There are few in Springfield," he said, "who were born as long ago as Doctor Jayne. We come not to mourn for Doc-

tor Jayne, for his death is as the plucking of the fruit fully ripe.

No one could be as interesting in reminiscences of the early days of Springfield as Doctor Jayne. He saw the Sangamon county farmer drive his cattle to the New York markets at a vast expense and after weeks of time. Doctor Jayne often told a story of going to New Salem with his father one day. While they were there they saw a boy rudely dressed sitting on top of a barrel reading a book. The elder Doctor Jayne remarked to his son that some day that boy would be governor. The boy was Abraham Lincoln, and Doctor Jayne and he were friends as long as Lincoln lived.

The speaker referred to Doctor Jayne's part in that stirring decade of history from 1850 to 1860 and of the appointment of Doctor Jayne as governor of the Dakota territory, now comprising four states.

With the exception of Bond and Coles, he said, Doctor Jayne was personally acquainted with every governor the State of Illinois ever had. No political organization ever tried to do anything worth while and left Doctor Jayne out.

Early in life he followed the policy that the pure idealist never gets anywhere. He followed Lincoln's teaching that the efficient man is one who has an ideal, but who will compromise for the best interests of his country."

Judge Humphrey referred to the gentle manner and kind heart of Doctor Jayne; that splendid quality of character that made him always visit the sick and cheer them up regardless of whether they were his patients or not.

"He believed in garlanding the brow as well as the tomb," said Judge Humphrey.

The speaker said that Doctor Jayne believed in the old doctrines that had stood the test of time.

"He always staid young" said Judge Humphrey, "by being every man's friend."

"He professed no religious dogma. He lived in the spirit. He visited the fatherless and kept himself unspotted from the world."

The pall bearers at the funeral were: Frank Whipp, George Pasfield, jr., George Keys, George Hippard, James A. Easley and Allan Enos.

The remains were interred in beautiful Evergreen Hill in Oak Ridge cemetery, which is located almost in the center of the stretch of woodland. Doctor Jayne was buried beside his wife.

A number of persons representing the Illinois College at Jacksonville were present at the funeral. Doctor Jayne attended this college.

Out of respect to Doctor Jayne the flag on the State House was at half mast all day. Doctor Jayne was a member of the building committee when the Capitol was completed, having been appointed to that position by Governor Richard J. Oglesby.

The Lincoln Library was closed from 12 to 6 o'clock in memory of the aged physician, who was president of the board of trustees of the library for many years.

Tribute to the life and memory of Doctor Jayne was paid by the city council in resolutions adopted by them.

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### THE COUNTRY DOCTOR.

READ AT THE FUNERAL OF DR. WILLIAM JAYNE.

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There's a gathering in the village, that has never been outdone  
Since the soldiers took their muskets to the war of 'sixty-one;  
And a lot of lumber wagons near the church upon the hill,  
And a crowd of country people, Sunday dressed and very still.

Now each window is pre-empted by a dozen heads or more,  
Now the spacious pews are crowded from the pulpit to the door;  
For with coverlet of blackness on his portly figure spread,  
Lies the grim old country doctor in a massive oaken bed.

Lies the fierce old country doctor,  
Lies the kind old country doctor,  
Whom the populace considered with a mingled love and dread.

Maybe half the congregation, now of great or little worth,  
Found this watcher waiting for them, when they came upon the earth,  
This undecorated soldier of a hard, unequal strife,  
Fought in many stubborn battles with the foes that sought their life.

In the night-time or in the day-time he would rally brave and well,  
 Though the summer lark was fifing, or the frozen lances fell;  
 Knowing if he won the battle, they would praise their Maker's name,  
 Knowing if he lost the battle, then the doctor was to blame.

'Twas the brave old virtuous doctor,  
 'Twas the good old faulty doctor,  
 'Twas the faithful country doctor—  
 Fighting stoutly all the same.  
 When so many pined in sickness, he had stood so strongly by,  
 Half the people felt a notion that the doctor couldn't die;  
 They must slowly learn the lesson how to live from day to day,  
 And have somewhat lost their bearings—now this landmark is away.

But perhaps it still is better that his busy life is done;  
 He has seen old views and patients disappearing, one by one;  
 He has learned that Death is master both of Science and of Art,  
 He has done his duty fairly and has acted out his part.

And the strong old country doctor,  
 And the weak old country doctor,  
 Is entitled to a furlough for his brain and for his heart.

—BY WILL CARLTON.

### DR. WILLIAM JAYNE.

*(Editorial in Illinois State Register, by H. W. Clendenin.)*

Springfield will feel keenly and most perceptibly the loss of Dr. William Jayne, close friend of Abraham Lincoln, physician, educator, politician and pioneer of Sangamon county. No man in Springfield enjoyed greater respect and reverence than Dr. Jayne.

Born in this city on October 8, 1826, he spent his entire life, with the exception of a few years, 1861-1869, when he served as territorial governor of Dakota and member of congress from that territory, as a resident of Sangamon county. Dr. Jayne lived to an age very few men reach. He was a man of great activity, wonderful resourcefulness and positive ideas.

He watched Springfield grow from a village of the prairies to an up-to-date progressive metropolis. During his entire life he was always on the firing line in municipal, state and national affairs. Few men of today possess a more valuable fund of knowledge of the past conditions, political and financial, of this country than did Dr. William Jayne.

Dr. Jayne was a close friend and adviser of Abraham Lincoln. He loved to talk of the early life of the Great Emancipator and it was always a great pleasure to listen to his wonderful tales of the pre-bellum days, when Lincoln was such a familiar figure in the activities of this city and state.

Dr. Jayne came from a sturdy stock. He lived many years past the allotted three score and ten, and up until the last few months of his life he actively attended to his daily affairs. At the time of his death he was vice president of the First National bank and president of the Library board.

The close friends of Dr. William Jayne loved him dearly. His admirable character, his unselfish devotion to ideals, his magnetic personality, his understanding of the big and little things of life, his marked morality, all combined to make him as he lived and died, a true, noble friend.

Men come and go. Most of the men who experienced the early hardships of frontier life in this section of Illinois have passed to the great beyond, but few have left a more marked impress upon the community in which they lived than has Dr. Jayne. In knowing him there has always been an inspiration; his memory will ever be an honored one.

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### OLD JACKSONVILLE.

DR. WILLIAM JAYNE.

(By Ensley Moore, Member Illinois State Historical Society.)

It may seem strange to tell of Dr. Jayne under this heading.

But he had so much to do with Jacksonville, and Jacksonville did so much for him, in giving him his collegiate education and his wife, that Springfield alone cannot claim him.

The general statements of his history have told of Governor Jayne's birth in Springfield, in 1826; of his being four times mayor of his native place; of his being state senator from the district including Morgan as well as Sangamon; of Grant appointing him pension agent; of Governor Oglesby making him a commissioner to complete the state capitol; of his fellow citi-

zens making him their representative in local offices; of his dying as President of the Public Library, that the younger Governor Yates had made him President of the State Board of Commissioners of Public Charities, and the great Lincoln had made him governor of the Dakotas.

But this was only a part of the means whereby this "Grand Old Man" had honored himself and his family and his day.

We, here in Jacksonville knew how, after being graduated from Illinois College, in the class of 1847, he had married Julia Wetherbee of the class of 1847, at Jacksonville Female Academy, and they two had dwelt happily together for over a quarter of a century.

Nor can even a "Sig" forget that William Jayne had been a founder and first President of Phi Alpha Society of Illinois College.

It is very doubtful if there was a man in all the United States who had known, and been associated with, and been so prominent himself, among the greatest men of the land as William Jayne. And yet, while proud of his distinction, he was as modest in manner as a girl.

One could not run over the list of his acquaintances without naming the majority of the greatest Americans in public life for the last sixty years.

But a point largely overlooked in the general notices was Governor Jayne's family relationships; distinguished enough to make him feel so by association. As has been said, he came down from an English family which entered America in the seventeenth century, and his father was one of the earliest settlers in Illinois. But Dr. Jayne was a brother-in-law of Judge Lyman Trumbull, twenty-four years United States Senator from Illinois—Trumbull having married Jayne's sister. By his own marriage to Miss Wetherbee, Dr. Jayne became an uncle to the wife of the present Richard Yates—whose mother was a Wetherbee. It was in the old Wetherbee house—since owned by the Rev. Dr. Glover, and now owned by Mrs. James C. Fairbank—that Jayne was married to Julia Wetherbee, in October, 1850. But his relationship to prominent people did not end there, for the son of Dr. and Mrs. Jayne married

the daughter of General and U. S. Senator John M. Palmer, and through that line Jayne's name comes down.

Of course Governor Jayne was an intimate acquaintance of the great war governor Yates, and of all the Republican chief executives down to the benign reign of the present governor, Judge Dunne.

His life in the West was one remarkable among his other experiences. He told me that, as Governor of Dakotah, he ruled over forty thousand Indians, and three thousand whites. His domain included an area of four hundred thousand square miles. And then he was a Delegate in Congress from that almost boundless bailiwick.

I first met Governor Jayne many years ago, when he probably thought I was too young to notice. In 1901, Governor Yates appointed us members of the State Board of Charities, and for four years we were intimately thrown together, and often travelled together over the prairies of our native state.

In an article last summer, entitled "A Pioneer Girl," I said: "Many, many years after riding up from the region where Kaskaskia had looked across the river to the little girl's birthplace, the old man whom they called Governor, threw back his head in characteristic pose, closed his eyes, and brought out to his younger fellow traveller the story of the little girl whom the Governor had known as a beautiful young woman.

It was Jayne whom we called Governor, the beautiful girl was Eunice Conn, and the writer was the fellow traveller of the great old man.

Dr. Jayne could tell many a story of the great men or winsome women he had known, and no doubt Dr. Glenn of Ashland and Mr. A. S. Wright of Woodstock and the Rev. Edward A. Kelly of Chicago, felt as honored as did the Secretary of the Board, Col. J. Mack Tanner, and I in our association with "the man who had known Lincoln."

Dr. Jayne was a rarely genial man, and he knew men and things as the men "who have been over the road" of life come to be wise.

His mind was clear and his foot quick; nor was his eye dim, for he never had recourse to spectacles.

As President of the Board of Charities Dr. Jayne was one of the able, educated, experienced, qualified men fitted for such a place, and Illinois was fortunate in having the loyal service of her loving son.